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PATENT

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED  
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1725**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.: 10/706,480 Confirmation No.: 8066  
Applicant(s): Burford et al.  
Filed: October 27, 2003  
Art Unit: 1725  
Examiner: Edmondson, Lynne Renee  
Title: SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED FRICTION STIR WELDING (FSW)  
ASSEMBLY, CONTROLLER AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING  
A FRICTION STIR WELDING OPERATION

Docket No.: 038190/268379  
Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

Sir:

In response to the final Official Action dated July 25, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.